

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A Spin Rinse Dryer, comprising:

a substrate support adapted to hold and rotate a substrate;

a source of fluid adapted to supply fluid to a surface of a substrate positioned on the substrate support; and

a shield positioned to receive fluid displaced from a substrate rotating on the substrate support, and comprising a substrate-facing surface at least a portion of which has a particle-blasted finish.

2. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 1, wherein the particle-blasted finish has a hydrophilic characteristic.

3. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 2, wherein the substrate support holds and rotates the substrate in a vertical orientation.

4. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 3, wherein at least part of the shield is at a higher elevation than the substrate support.

5. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 4, wherein at least part of the particle-blasted finish is above the substrate when the substrate is held and rotated by the substrate support.

6. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 4, wherein the shield is movable between a first position

in which at least part of the shield is above the substrate when the substrate is held and rotated by the substrate support and a second position in which the shield does not obstruct placement of the substrate on the substrate support from a position above the substrate support.

7. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 4, wherein the particle-blasted finish has a downwardly sloped cross section.

8. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 7, wherein a top surface of the shield has a downwardly sloped cross section.

9. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 1, wherein the shield comprises polycarbonate.

10. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 9, wherein the shield is a unitary piece of molded polycarbonate.

11. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 9, wherein the particle-blasted finish is a grit-blasted finish.

12. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 1, wherein the shield is a unitary piece of molded polycarbonate.

13. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 4, wherein the substrate-facing surface has surface features for directing fluid from an apex of the shield.

14. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 4, wherein the substrate-facing surface has a plurality of channels configured to direct fluid circumferentially along the shield.

15. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 4, wherein the particle-blasted finish has a downwardly sloped cross section and wherein the channels are configured to direct fluid along the downwardly sloped cross section.

16. (Previously Presented) A vertical Spin Rinse Dryer, comprising:

a substrate support adapted to hold and rotate a vertically oriented substrate;

a source of fluid adapted to supply fluid to the surface of a substrate positioned on the substrate support; and

a shield system comprising a plurality of vertically and horizontally staggered shields positioned to receive fluid flung from a substrate rotating on the substrate support, at least one of the shields having a substrate-facing surface that has a particle-blasted finish.

17. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 16, wherein the plurality of shields includes:

a main shield wherein the substrate-facing surface is angled from a higher elevation closest to a first side of the substrate to a lower elevation closest to a second side of the substrate so that the fluid flows therealong to a lower edge of the main shield;

a lower shield positioned at a lower elevation than the main shield, extending from a point beneath the main shield to a point beyond the lower edge of the main shield, and being angled

from a higher elevation closest to the lower edge of the main shield, to a lower elevation farthest from the main shield; and

a higher shield positioned at a higher elevation than the main shield, extending from a point above the main shield to a point beyond the higher edge of the main shield and being angled from a lower elevation closest to the higher edge of the main shield, to a higher elevation farthest from the main shield.

18. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 16, wherein at least a portion of the at least one particle-blasted finish has a hydrophilic characteristic.

19. (Previously Presented) A vertical Spin Rinse Dryer, comprising:

a substrate support adapted to hold and rotate a vertically oriented substrate;

a source of fluid adapted to supply fluid to the surface of a substrate positioned on the substrate support; and

a housing which encloses the substrate support, the housing having a top portion that has a slope adapted to cause fluid to flow therealong away from a region above the substrate support, the top portion having a lower surface that has a particle-blasted finish.

20. (Previously Presented) The Spin Rinse Dryer of claim 19, wherein at least a portion of the lower surface of the top portion has a hydrophilic characteristic.

21-35. (Canceled).